

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Peter Zawilski on 12 March 2008.

The application has been amended as follows: Claim **16** has been canceled (see interview summary dated 3/12/2008).

Claim **10, line 3**. Insert -- layer -- after "the first semiconductor".

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-15 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the closest prior art of record, Hopper et al. (US 6,285,057 B1), does not teach "a lateral dimension of the second recess and the thickness of the dielectric layer being chosen such that the second recess is filled substantially completely by the dielectric layer" and the formation of a semiconductor island as stated in claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KENISHA V. FORD whose telephone number is (571)270-3328. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Lebentritt can be reached on (571) 272-1873. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

KVF

/Michael S. Lebentritt/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2812